

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of June 2 - June 6, 2008**

1. Function at the Junction Concert Series Tonight: This Friday, enjoy the music of Lea and her All-Star Band from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the parking lot next to the Co-op. The concert series is sponsored by the City of Takoma Park and the Takoma Park-Silver Spring Co-op. For more information, call 301-891-7231. City TV crews will be covering the Function. *(Housing and Community Development & City TV)*

2. Crossroads Farmers Market Begins 2nd Year - Grand Opening June 11 (Ward 6): Support the Crossroads Farmers Market on Wednesday, June 11, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. at their new location across from the US Post Office on Holton Lane and help them celebrate their 2nd year of operation. The market accepts Food Stamps, WIC & Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program coupons and provides a variety of fresh locally grown or produced international foods for a diverse, growing community. For more information call 301-445-4368 or e-mail crossroadsmarket@gmail.com. *(Housing and Community Development)*

3. Takoma/Langley Crossroads Urban Design Workshop This Thursday and Saturday! (Ward 6): Review ideas and select options for future development around the University/New Hampshire Avenue and University/Riggs Road transit stations, Thursday, June 12, 4 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Langley Park Community Center, 1500 Merrimac Drive, Langley Park OR Saturday, June 14 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., outdoors on Holton Lane near the Post Office. Both workshops will be drop-in open houses where participants are encouraged to grab a marker and draw new design ideas or modify the designers' ideas. The indoor workshop will have a presentation. A workshop will be held Thursday, July 17 to review final urban design options. Learn more at www.mncppc.org/tlc or call 301-495-4565. *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. Equipment Failure: City TV suffered equipment failure due to the storms on Wednesday and so the bulletin board ran without audio for over 24 hours. Comcast officials got the channel back to normal Friday afternoon. *(City TV)*

5. Tree Planting: City contractor recently planted 20 trees: 4 in Forest Park (2 oaks, 2 amelanchier); 2 in Upper Portal at Eastern Ave and Piney Branch Rd (amelanchier); 10 along Kennebec Avenue (dogwood); and, 4 along Lancaster (linden). *(Public Works)*

6. Electronics Recycling: Best Buy Co., Inc. has launched a test of its newest electronics recycling program in 117 U.S. stores, including the Wheaton store on Georgia Avenue. Starting June 1, at participating stores, they are inviting customers to bring in no more than two (2) units per day, per household, for recycling at no charge. Customers can bring items such as televisions and monitors up to 32", computers, phones, cameras, and other electronics devices and peripherals in for recycling. The following items cannot be accepted through this program: Televisions or monitor screens greater than 32"; console televisions; air conditioners; microwaves; appliances. *(Public Works)*

7. Recycling and More Recycling: Montgomery County will hold a household hazardous waste day next Saturday, June 14 (also Flag Day!) from 10 AM to 2 PM at Silver Spring International Middle School, 313 Wayne Ave, Silver Spring. For more information on the household hazardous waste day, see

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/swstmpl.asp?url=/content/dpwt/SolidWaste/collection_services/hw/hhw/index.asp. Please note you cannot bring electronics to household hazardous waste day. Montgomery County now can accept electronics any day at the Transfer Station near Shady Grove or at special events they schedule. There will be a special electronics event on June 22 in Burtonsville. For more information on electronics recycling, see http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/dpwt/solidwaste/collectionservices/material_detail.asp?categoryID=53&utm_source=website&utm_medium=link&utm_content=home_page&utm_campaign=electronics. *(Executive Assistant)*

8. Two County Turning Point Mural Dedication Ceremony: On Tuesday, June 17, at 11:00am, join invited guests and speakers, Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson, State Senator David C. Harrington, State Senator Jamin B. (Jamie) Raskin, and other elected officials and the community for a celebratory event, marking the dedication of the "Turning Point" Mural hosted by local community-based organizations in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The ceremony will be held at 101 Southampton Drive, Silver Spring, MD in the Northwest Park Apartments Community. Please go to the website to find additional information about the project, <http://www.artsontheblock.org/>, or contact Mary Kendall, CSAF Program Director at 301-439-0971 or maryk@takomagov.org. *(Police)*

9. Tenant Rights Class to be held June 10: On Tuesday, June 10, from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Landlord-Tenant staff will sponsor a class on tenant rights. Anyone having questions about security deposits, notices to vacate, lease requirements or the rent stabilization law are invited to attend to have their questions addressed. Anyone interested in forming a tenant association in their building can also obtain further information about the process for registering their group. To register for the class, call 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. HCD Staff Attends Annual HAND Meeting: HCD planners, Ilona Blanchard and David Suls and Affordable Housing Manager Linda Walker attended the 2008 annual meeting of the Housing Association of Non-Profit Developers (HAND) on June 2. The meeting provided staff with an opportunity to network with non-profit developers who do business in the region. The keynote speaker at the event was Congressman Barney Frank, who has been a long time supporter of affordable housing and is currently chair of the Finance Committee. He was awarded by HAND for his efforts to introduce and pass H.R. 2895, the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act which will allocate between \$800 million and \$1 billion annually to states and local communities for the preservation of affordable housing. *(Housing and Community Development)*

11. Volunteer to Clean Up the Maryland Gateway (Ward 3): Join the City and the Pinecrest and Circle Woods neighborhood associations on Saturday, June 28, 2008 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as we work together to spruce up the gateway to Takoma Park and Maryland. This clean-up day is an initiative of the Neighborhood Commercial Area Small Scale Improvements project. For more information - and to sign up to volunteer - contact Catherine Rassman at (301) 891-7119 or by e-mail at Catheriner@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

12. Community Gardens and Greening Project - Accepting Applications (Wards 2, 3 and 6): HCD staff are continuing to accept applications for the New Hampshire

Avenue Corridor - Community Gardening and Greening Project. There are several properties that are open to gardening along the Avenue. For more information contact Paul Grenier at (301) 891 7220 or pgrenier@takomagov.org. (*Housing and Community Development*)

13. Neighborhood Traffic Calming (Wards 2, 3, and 6): The Long-Branch Sligo neighborhood project is currently on hold pending the conclusion of the construction on Sligo Creek Parkway. New Hampshire Gardens is concluding the final demonstration of a series of traffic calming options in the neighborhood and is expected to discuss next steps during the week of June 16th. A traffic calming demonstration is expected to be installed in the Pinecrest neighborhood next week. (*Housing and Community Development*)

14. New Hampshire Avenue Facade Grant Award (Ward 2): The first Community Legacy funded New Hampshire Avenue Corridor beautification grant was awarded to Walia Ethiopian Restaurant, located at 6846 New Hampshire Avenue, south of Ethan Allen Avenue. The grant is for signage and landscaping. For more information on the program or to receive an application please call (301) 891-7219. (*Housing and Community Development*)

15. Neighborhood Commercial Area Improvements (Ward 5, 2, and 6): Landscaping was installed at the corner of Piney Branch Road and Flower Avenue and on the New Hampshire Avenue median at Sligo Creek Parkway in furtherance of the City's efforts to improve neighborhood commercial areas throughout the community. (*Housing and Community Development*)

16. Submission Deadline - The Bathroom Poet Project (City-wide): The deadline for submissions to the Bathroom Poetry Project is tomorrow, Saturday, June 7. If you or someone you know would like to submit their original work to be considered for inclusion in the project, please e-mail your poems to the bathroompoet@hotmail.com. If you own a business in Takoma Park and your restrooms are open to the public, please let us know if you would be interested in having one of the selected poems posted at your establishment. (*Housing and Community Development*)

17. Successful Interviewing: The first of three summer workshops on 'successful interviewing' for job seekers was presented jointly by the Library with MontgomeryWorks on June 5th in the Community Center. (*Library*)

18. Lapsit: The first of a new (quarterly) series of 'Lapsit' programs for infants and their grown-ups was presented in the Library on June 4. Children attending ranged in age from 3 weeks to 11 months. These programs are designed by Librarian Karen MacPherson to encourage reading readiness, Library use, and activities that new parents and children can enjoy together. (*Library*)

19. Summer Quest: The Library's Summer Quest summer reading program kick-off will be held June 12 at the Library. On June 9 and 10, Karen MacPherson and Library Assistant/Artist Dave Burbank will do presentations at two of the three schools that will be adopting our program this summer - Piney Branch Elementary and East Silver Spring Elementary. The third is Takoma Elementary. (*Library*)

20. **Art Quest:** Free 'Art Quest' workshops for children ages 9 -13 will be held in the Computer Center on June 30 - July 3 ('Photo Art Quest') and August 4 - 8 ('Comic Art Quest'). These workshops are mostly full, but further information, registration and wait-list registration is available at the Library, or on-line at www.takomapark.info/library at "events" just below the City logo. *(Library)*

21. **Daddy's Day:** Make a gift for your Dad and/or your teacher at a special craft program on Monday June 9 at 7:00 pm. Register on-line at www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html. Or call 301-891-7259. *(Library)*

22. **Holla at Me:** This session was planned around Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month which is commemorated in May. The session was facilitated by Karla Kelley, Recreation Manager Teen Programs. Attendees participated in a role-playing scenario R.I.S.K., Real Issues of the Sexual Kind, which simulated real life situations which included abstinence, sexually transmitted infections, unprotected sex, and teen pregnancy. This was a coed Holla at Me session for a total of 37 teen (29 boys and 8 girls). The R.I.S.K. simulation was very engaging and brought home the consequences and risks of engaging in high risks activities and inappropriate sexual behavior in a way that teenagers could understand. This was the most highly attended Holla at Me session of the year with 37 in attendance! Parental approval was required for participation. All participants left the session with a deeper understanding of the consequences of risky sexual behavior. *(Recreation)*

23. **Road Tripz:** Laser tag was the game of the night for TGIF teen programs Friday, May 26. Eighteen youth traveled to Shadowland in Springfield, Virginia. They zipped and zapped each other and the kids have reported that they had a great time. The City of Takoma Parks bus was utilized for this trip. The numbers of teens in our Friday night programs are increasing. Last Friday during open gym at Piney Branch Elementary school teen program staff opened the doors to 45 youth between the hours of 6:00pm - 9:00pm. *(Recreation)*

24. **Out On the Town:** On Sat., May 31, the Takoma Park Recreation bus pulled out of the parking lot with the largest Family Day Trip. Eighteen enthusiastic bear lovers headed to Boyd's Bear Country in Gettysburg, Pa. The participants got to make a bear in the bear factory or adopt a dog from the doggy adoption center. This fun-filled day included a concert and a scrumptious lunch of down home cooking. Participants ranged in age from 4 - adult. *(Recreation)*

25. **T-Ball:** On Saturday, May 31, over 45 kids in grades K-1 showed up for opening day of the summer T-ball season. Teams will play in a low pressure league with parent volunteers as their guides. Games are held on Saturday mornings at Spring and Jeque Parks. *(Recreation)*

26. The Chief & Officers in Meetings:

- On June 4, Lt. Richard Cipperly and Sgt. Richard Poole met with various members of the department regarding the new Crime Scene Unit.
- On June 5, Chief Ricucci and Ms. Mary Kendall attended a meeting in Takoma Park with Erwin Mack, Executive Director, Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority, Inc., to discuss an initiative in Ward 6 on Crime Prevention.
- Today, Enterprise Leasing made a presentation to Chief Ricucci on Fleet Management. *(Police)*

27. First Responders Training: On June 5, Mr. Van Wagenen, Accreditation Manager, attended training at the Rail and Transit Security & Safety at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency in Reisterstown. This training focused on safety and security for First Responders who may respond to rail and mass transit incidents. The invited presenters included Maryland Transit Administration, CSX Railroad, Norfolk Southern Railroad, AMTRAK, FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force, and Transportation Security Administration. *(Police)*

28. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 110 traffic stops, which resulted in citations and three (3) vehicle impounds, two (2) Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrests and one (1) stolen vehicle arrest.

During the week of May 30 - June 3, 2008, the following details were completed:

May 30

- Philadelphia Avenue and Holly Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued four (4) warnings.
- 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) state citation and one (1) warning.

June 2

- Maple Avenue and Lincoln Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.
- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued six (6) state citations.

June 3

- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a one and a half (1 1/2) hour detail and issued seven (7) state citations.
- (Police)*